Open the doors

The Lenten theme for this year is “Open the doors” where we are invited to stop and think of ‘the other’. One of our statements form our Morale Purpose calls us to be a community where “everyone serves and cares for people and purpose beyond themselves”. Let us all take this time to “open the doors” of our hearts to take little actions to make the lives of everyone a little better each day by the way we listen, by the way we offer a smile, by the way we extend a helping hand.

I see examples of this everyday here at school in the playground, in class and at the swimming pool.

You may have been wondering where our newsletters have gone in 2013? My apologies for it being late, we have been working hard in getting ready for our school review and beginning-of-year “must-dos”, but here it is, and it will be published every two weeks, without fail! 😊

Easter Raffle

Our Easter Raffle ticket are coming home next week don’t forget “You have to be in it to win it!”
Over the last two weeks we have spending our mornings in the pool at the Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre where everyone has been improving in their water confidence, sense of safety around water and, for some, their swimming techniques (although we were still seeing lots of belly flops on Friday!) We are thankful to the parents who came along over the course of the program and to the staff at MAC.
**Important School News**

**Family Room**
The Family Room at MOGS is where the playgroup is held every Friday morning. You are very welcome to come in on a morning when you drop the kids off, or in the afternoons when you come to pick up instead of staying out in the hot weather. Help yourself to the aircon and a cool drink of water instead. Over the coming weeks we will also install a few computers for family use.

**Parent Support Team**
The Parent Support Team meets every Friday afternoon on the week when there is no assembly at 2pm in the Family Room. There are lots of exciting events underway for the kids and they could do with some more help. So why don’t you come along one of the meetings and see how you can contribute to the school?

**MOGS Playgroup**
The Playgroup has moved to Friday mornings. We meet in the Family Room every Friday from 9.30 – 11.30. It’s a great way to meet new parents and a wonderful support for the young ones.

**Kinda Kinder**
The Kinda Kinder program begins this year on March 26 in the Family Room. This is a program for 0 – preschool age children that we offer in conjunction with Victoria University. It runs for one hour each week beginning at 9.3. No need to book!

**Home visits and Parent Teacher Chats**
Thank you to all those families who either took the opportunity to have a home visit or came along to the Parent Teacher chats last month. We are very committed to having such contact with all families within the first few weeks of the school year beginning. If you have not caught up with your child’s teacher(s) please make sure you do so within the week. These initial conversations are really important in us building our relationships between family and school.

**Learning Together – Engaging Parents and Families in School Learning**
Our great school was invited to feature in a video that was developed by the Catholic Education Office that celebrates the great work where schools and families work together to enhance the learning of all children. It was launched last night in the city at Sacred Heart School, Fitzroy. Thanks to the Leadership Team, Katy Wade & Pamela Wheelahan who contributed to the video and to Imogen Benson-Fryer who stars in it!

**Electronic Newsletter**
Our newsletter is published on the school website [www.mogardeer.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mogardeer.catholic.edu.au) in the News and Events section. If you would like the newsletter emailed to you each time please send an email to principal@mogardeer.catholic.edu.au with Newsletter Request in the subject line and we will add you to our mailing list.